TITLE: Software trial method, system and registration procedure involves combining software with set-up program that checks registration data in customers computer each time product is accessed

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BASIC-ABSTRACT:

The method involves first combining the software product (12) with an encrypted set-up/registration program (customer interface module) (10), to form a combined software object (14). This is distributed to potential customers, and loaded onto their computers (2). The set-up/registration program stores a registration record for the software in any other pre-installed software registration record files (40), if there are no pre-existing registration files, it creates its own one.

The registration program allows access to the software for a predetermined period only; each time the software is accessed the registration record is checked. If the customer purchases the software then registration data is distributed that allows use of the software beyond the predetermined period. The system may be set-up to automatically connect with the software distributor via the internet from the customer's computer, checking and distributing registration data centrally.

ADVANTAGE - Does not require expensive and time consuming encryption of entire software.
TITLE-TERMS: SOFTWARE TRIAL METHOD SYSTEM REGISTER PROCEDURE COMBINATION SET UP PROGRAM CHECK DATA CUSTOMER COMPUTER TIME PRODUCT ACCESS
DERWENT-CLASS: T01
EPI-CODES: T01-F05B2; T01-G05C1; T01-J05A; T01-J20B2A;
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